

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-08

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 NSC-05 SP-02 EB-04 INR-05

CIAE-00 EURE-00 /039 W

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P R 221510Z AUG 77

FM USMISSION USBERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5142

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L USBERLIN 2206

LIMDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: EGEN, EINV, GW, WB, UK

SUBJECT: FORD MOTOR PLANT DEVELOPMENTS

REF: USBERLIN 2164

1. DIE WELT 20/21 AUGUST EDITION CONTAINED BYLINED ARTICLE BASED ON LEAK OF TIGHTLY HELD STORY TO EFFECT MAJOR AMERICAN AUTOMOBILE MANUFACTURER WAS INVESTIGATING BERLIN AS SITE FOR POSSIBLE PLANT. SEVERAL PRESS STORIES AUGUST 22 IDENTIFY FIRM AS GENERAL MOTORS. ARTICLES STATE GENERAL MOTORS, WORKING WITH OPEL, IS TO MAKE 500-800 MILLION MARK MINIMUM EUROPEAN INVESTMENT. SEVERAL AREAS, INCLUDING IRELAND, SPAIN AND BERLIN, ARE ALLEGEDLY IN THE RUNNING. BERLIN SENAT REPORTEDLY OFFERED LAND IN BERLIN TEMPELHOF AREA. THIS LATTER STORY HAS THE RING OF LEAKED DISINFORMATION TO COVER SENAT EMBARRASSEMENT AT LEAK OF FORD PROJECT AND PERHAPS TO STIMULATE COMPETITIVE SPIRIT.

2. USBERLIN HAS LEARNED THAT FEDERAL MINISTER FOR ECONOMIC AFFAIRS FRIDERICH'S HAS PERSONALLY WRITTEN TO HENRY FORD II ON THE FORD
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PROJECT. FRIDERICH'S TOLD FORD THAT HE HAD DEALT WITH FORDE EUROPEAN CHAIRMAN POLING, PRESIDENT OF FORD EUROPE LUTZ, AND HERR VEIHER, OF THE GERMAN FORD PLANT IN COLOGNE. FRIDERICH'S DREW ON HIS PERSONAL MEETING WITH MR. FORD DURING THE 50-YEAR FORDJUBILEE CELEBRATION IN COLOGNE AND REGRETTED POLING APPEARED TO BE GIVING GREAT WEIGHT TO CERTAIN CALCULATIONS. FRIDERICH'S STRESSED

EXCEPTIONALLY FAVORABLE FRG/BERLIN INVESTMENT CLIMATE,
BUT WAS NEUTRAL ON THE QUESTION OF WHETHER BERIN OR
SAARLAND/WESTFALZ AREA SHOULD BE FAVORED.

3. MAYOR STOBBE ALSO WROTE FORD AN ADDITIONAL AUGUST 17
LETTERMENTIONING THAT FEDERAL CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT HAD
ENCOURAGED HIM TO DIRECTLY APPROACH MR. FORD. STOBBE
RECALLED THAT FORD NAME WAS TIED CLOSELY WITH BERLIN
(E.G., FREE UNIVERSITY) AND URGED THOROUGH INVESTIGATION
OF BERLIN AS A SITE FOR PROJECTED PLANT. HE PROMISED
MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE OF BERLIN SENAT WXPERS IN FINANCE
AND ECONOMICS. GEORGE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY, CONSTRUCTION, MOTORS, INDUSTRIAL PLANTS, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 22-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
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TAGS: EGEN, EINV, SOPN, GE, WB, UK, FORD MOTOR CO
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/230e6956-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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